The Government has adopted the principle of equitable burden sharing between the Government, the oil PSUs and consumers to protect the interests of common man, vulnerable sections of society and also the financial health of OMCs. In this context, the Government has made marginal increase in petrol and diesel prices by Rs. 2/litre and Re. 1 /litre respectively with effect from 15.2.2008 which is actually in the nature of a restoration of retail prices, to the price level operating before February, 2007. Despite the steep increases in international oil prices, the Government has not increased the prices of PDS Kerosene during the last six years and of Domestic LPG during the last three years.

The Government is closely monitoring the international oil prices and will continue to protect the interests of consumers.

Profit and turnover of public and private oil companies

t65. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that public and private sector oil companies in the country have earned net profit in the first nine months of the financial year 2007-08 ending December;

(b) if so, the break up of the amount of returns earned by each of the such companies during the said period; and

(c) the total turnover of each of these companies during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE I*N* THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Private Oil Companies are not under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The Profit After Tax and total turnover of the major Oil Public Sector Undertakings in the first nine months of the financial year 2007-08 are as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Name of the major Oil PSUs	Profit After Tax	Total Turnover
ONGC	14074.55	44408.92
IOCL	7377.00	177223.00
BPCL	1522.18	86211.02
HPCL	750.38	73901.00
GAIL	1879.00	13073.00
OIL	1342.06	4291.77

Shortage of LPG supply

†66. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: SHRI
ABU ASIM AZMI: PROF. ALKA
BALRAM KSHATRIYA: SHRI AMIR
ALAM KHAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of supply of LPG cylinders in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.